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National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

NEW JERSEY 2004 APPLE AND PEACH CROP FORECASTS

Apple production is forecast at 40 million pounds, the same production as last year. Growing conditions are rated fair to good. Apples are sizing well. Early varieties are being harvested in the southern portion of the state. Prospects for a good crop look promising.

Peach production is forecast at 65 million pounds, down five million pounds from the July 2004 forecast. Producers began the peach harvest earlier than usual. Fruit quality and size are generally good. Frequent rains and scattered thunderstorms after mid-July not only interrupted the harvest schedule, but also caused some fruit to crack. Growing conditions vary across the state.

Apple and Peach Production, August 1 Forecast

- Total Production -			
Crop	Final 2003	Forecast July 1, 2004	Forecast August 1, 2004
NEW JERSEY - Million Pounds -			
Apples	40.0	1/	40.0
Peaches	70.0	70.0	65.0
UNITED STATES - Million Pounds -			
Apples	8,613.3	1/	9,365.9
Peaches	2,519.0	2,162.4	2,598.4

1/ First apple forecast is August 1.

NEW JERSEY'S CORN CROP UP 25 PERCENT

Corn production is forecast at 8.64 million bushels, an increase of 25 percent from last year. Producers expect 120 bushels per acre for the 2004 crop. The state record yield per acre is 134 bushels, set in 2000. The 10-year (1993-2002) state average yield is 100 bushels per acre. Area intended for harvest as grain is 72,000 acres, up 11,000 from last year.

Soybean yield is forecast at 36 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from the previous year. The state record yield per acre is 40 bushels, set in 2000. The 10-year average yield is 31 bushels. Production is expected to total 3.46 million bushels, up 16 percent from 2003.

Acreage, Yield, and Production of Corn and Soybeans, August 1 Forecast

Crop	Acres Planted		Acres for Harvest		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2003	Forecast 2004	2003	Forecast 2004	2003	Forecast 2004	2003	Forecast 2004
NEW JERSEY - Thousand - Bushels - Thousand Bushels -								
Corn for grain	80	88	61	72	113.0	120.0	6,893	8,640
Soybeans	90	98	88	96	34.0	36.0	2,992	3,456
UNITED STATES - Thousand - Bushels - Million Bushels -								
Corn for grain	78,736	80,968	71,139	73,377	142.2	148.9	10,113.9	10,923.1
Soybeans	73,404	74,809	72,321	73,655	33.4	39.1	2,417.6	2,876.6

Notes: Forecasts in this report are based on conditions around August 1, 2004, and do not reflect changes in conditions since that time. The next crop production forecast will be released September 10, 2004.

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